

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Paul Caron et al.

Application No.: 10/550,701

Confirmation No.: 4333

Filed: December 16, 2005

Art Unit: 1793

For: METHOD FOR TREATING TUNGSTEN  
CARBIDE PARTICLES

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Examiner: S. L. Hendrickson

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN RCE**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicant responds to the Final Office Action of August 14, 2009 by filing a Request for Continued Examination. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.